

**To:** Salera, Jerry@DOC[Jerry.Salera@conservation.ca.gov]  
**Cc:** Ricker, Michelle[MRicker@scsengineers.com]; Albright, David[Albright.David@epa.gov];  
Dermer, Michele[Dermer.Michele@epa.gov]; R9-Deep[R9Deep@epa.gov]  
**From:** Robin, George  
**Sent:** Wed 8/14/2013 8:26:39 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Cat Canyon Sisquoc AE application

Hi Jerry and Michelle,

Yes, please provide a hard copy of the application. That copy will not need to be duplicated if further records such as exchanges between agencies (esp. the Regional Board) and the public (esp. during the public comment period) become part of the record as supplemental material to this application.

In a phone conversation I had with Michelle last month while you were on leave, we discussed the possibility of video conferencing while considering this case, and including the context of a larger set of future Aquifer Exemptions in California. One issue was dealing with the definition of “commercial quantities” of oil & gas. No doubt this can be quite an elusive term to address, if there is no guiding approach that is acceptable. Further, the EPA has begun a nationwide effort toward Aquifer Exemptions that includes the goal of standardizing as much as possible while obtaining a digitized version of these records.

I will proceed with downloading the digital version of the application in the meantime with Cat Canyon as the current task at hand.

Will you all please let us know if further conferencing sounds feasible. In the initial stages, I wish to consider Michelle’s firm’s perspective while we examine the larger aquifers in the state. We still need to work out any technical, internet connection bugs we experienced during the last video session. Additionally, a day’s trip to Sacramento is readily arranged.

George

*George Robin ([robin.george@epa.gov](mailto:robin.george@epa.gov))*

*Engineer, Underground Injection Control*

*US EPA, Region IX                      Phone (415) 972-3532*

*75 Hawthorne St.                      Fax (415) 947-3549*

*Ground Water Office*

*Mail Code: WTR-9*

*San Francisco, CA 94105*

**From:** Salera, Jerry@DOC [mailto:Jerry.Salera@conservation.ca.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 13, 2013 5:49 PM  
**To:** Robin, George  
**Cc:** Ricker, Michelle  
**Subject:** Cat Canyon Sisquoc AE application

Hi George,

This is about the Cat Canyon aquifer exemption application for the Sisquoc formation that an operator, ERG Operating Company has been working on for some time now. The Sisquoc is a primacy-exempted zone in as far as the “shaded areas” have been defined in the primacy application. Since primacy, the hydrocarbon areas have expanded and thus, the basis for this application.

We have had discussions of this application before in several phone calls and email exchanges. This document has undergone several iterations to make it more complete and clearer. As you can see, if you compare the document that you have gotten initially and this one, you will note that there’s been substantial improvements to the content and exhibits, including, among other items :

1. A more thorough characterization of the Sisquoc aquifer
2. Contours of the Sisquoc oil sands mapped with reference to the proposed areas for exemption

This is not yet a formal submission as we still need to complete the agency and public notice process. However, kindly let me know if this document as presented is already substantially complete, so that we can initiate the notification and public review process.

This document is about 40 Mb, so I would like to request you to download this from the link below:

[https://app.smartsheet.com/b/download/att/a\\_oBUpOeGMOsb8EXTD0Ot35-cecrCHGrqEHlgvz3Yp4](https://app.smartsheet.com/b/download/att/a_oBUpOeGMOsb8EXTD0Ot35-cecrCHGrqEHlgvz3Yp4)

I know EPA is trying to go paperless but if there's a need to have hardcopies, kindly let me know. I have cc: ed Michele Ricker of SCS Consultants in this message so that she will be cue'd if you need to have these sent to you.

Thank you and please let me know if you want to discuss at your convenience.

***Jerry Salera***

Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program

CA Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources

801 K Street, MS 20-20

Sacramento, CA 95814

Tel: 916-323-1781

Fax: 916-323-0424

[Jerry.Salera@conservation.ca.gov](mailto:Jerry.Salera@conservation.ca.gov)